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mended.

The Times.

ENLARGED SHEET

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1885.

The President of the Senate Pro  
Temple.

A little misapprehension exists

in the public mind, as well as in  
journalistic circles, relative to the status,  
powers and functions of the President  
pro tempore of the United States Senate,

who, since office exists, which is  
not the case at present. The President  
pro tempore is not eligible to the Presidency  
of the United States in the event of the  
death or incapacity of both the President  
and Vice-President.

He is the President pro tempore, not  
Vice-President, nor even Acting-Vice-President,  
but by courtesy in the use of  
that term. It is not in the power of  
the Senate, in the case before us, to  
elect a Vice-President; that power,  
under the Constitution, is primarily  
vested in the President, Exchange, Los Angeles.

The letter to Colman is as follows:

"Washington, D. C., Nov. 18, 1885.

"Hon. Norman J. Colman, Commissary  
of the U. S. Mint, San Francisco,  
Calif.: Will you please find a true copy of  
a part of a letter addressed to me by the  
President pro tempore of the Senate, in  
which he says that any part of the world could combine as  
much that is good, diversified with each  
other, as we are compelled to say that this  
little bit of wisdom and variety is what it  
was known.

"Very truly yours, H. H. MARKMAN.

"The Secretary of the Treasury.

The President will elect a new  
assistant officer upon the opening of  
its session next week, but beyond per-  
forming the restricted functions of that  
office he cannot go.

The Constitution provides (Article

II, section 1), that in case of the  
removal, death or inability of both the  
President and Vice-President, the Con-  
gress, "deeming that office shall then  
act as President," shall, but, unfortunately, Congress has never  
availed itself of its rights under the  
Constitution in this regard; it has never  
passed such a law, although there has  
been frequent agitation of the subject  
both in Congress and in the country.

The nation is in a state of suspense.



